

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



July 2019



Reflections as Board President

First, I would like to thank the Board for entrusting me to serve as president for the last two years. It has been a tremendous and humbling honor and experience working with all of you, Board staff, DCA, and the Governor's Office as we navigated organizational change, passage of legislation and regulatory changes, an increase in service levels, and advancement of the registered dispensing optician program.

As I reflect on Board service, which I take quite seriously, and because I have learned it is time-intensive and demands year-round and frequent attention, I am sharing the following experiences and observations.

Like each of you, I felt the calling to serve and effect change through state service. As smart, engaged, and energetic leaders, we give our time, passion, and expertise.

Serving on this Board as its president has been a learning opportunity. Learning about the work of this Board from the inside—seeing how decisions are made, information is shared, and organizational change is advanced or managed—these are all tremendous learning opportunities.

Whether it was leading from the front with respect to championing executive officer compensation and pay for performance, pursuing additional resources to advance our mission and strategic plan, or rallying behind committee priorities away from the spotlight, serving as president has been a professional and personal growth opportunity. I stepped outside of my comfort zone many times, learning new subject areas and addressing problems as we worked together as a team and as I worked with various levels of management and departments within DCA.

This service has provided a sharper understanding of the state system, the optometry and dispensing opticians profession, and governance of the largest professional body of its kind in the nation.

All of this would not have been possible without an executive committee by my side. My sincerest thanks to Dr. Turetsky for sharing his expertise, insight, and commitment to partnering with the Board's first public member president. He was a significant and selfless partner as vice president. And, to Ms. Michelin, whose attention to detail, leadership, and willingness to shift us to action-oriented minutes helped us keep track of the "what" and the "how" and made her contributions as secretary invaluable.

This has been a meaningful experience and I thank you again for the honor of serving as president. I look forward to supporting the next Board executive team to lead us into the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cyd Brandvein".

Cyd Brandvein, President